Continental can't hide from contract

By JACK HEYMAN

STOCKTON, Ca.—"Teamsters, longshore, no scabs, no more!" shouted 500 ILWU and IBT pickets as grain trucks approached the Continental Grain terminal at the Port of Stockton Friday, October 8. Not one passed through.

The stage for confrontation was set two days earlier when members of Teamster Local 439 repelled the company's "best and final offer." The grain workers, who earn $12 an hour, were seeking a small pension increase and a decrease in the $200 a month the company deducts for health and welfare from their paychecks. Picket lines were set up at the two gates.

BONA FIDE PICKET
Members of ILWU longshore Local 54, Stockton, and clerks Local 34 refused, naturally, to cross the picket line. Area Arbitrator Jerry Sutliff ruled that it was a bona fide picket line and ILWU members were not required to cross it under the contract. Continental Grain retaliated. If the ILWU members wouldn't cross, they company said, they would do the work without them.

The next day, October 7, Continental management started loading the wheat. Some 40 members and officers of Teamster Local 439 repelled for Stockton to join the Teamsters and members of Local 54 on the picket line and check out the situation.

When PMA and the area arbitrator claimed that they were powerless to force Continental to comply with the arbitration award, the ILWU kicked the coast grievance machinery into gear. International President David Cavalli, took the case to Coast Arbitrator Sam Kagel, assisted by Local 34 President Richard Cavalli, took the case to Coast Arbitrator Sam Kagel.

Late that afternoon, Kagel confirmed the Sutliff decision, finding that Continental was in violation of the PCLC; that the ILWU had a right to honor the picket line; that the company couldn't assign longshore work to non-longshoremen; and that Continental Grain must pay longshoremen in lieu of work already done.

COMPANY THUMBS NOSE
Continental Grain thumbed its nose, and defiantly continued to load the ship.

At the following morning's job call Local 10 president George Romero and Secretary-Treasurer Lawrence Thibeaux informed the San Francisco longshore local's membership of this serious threat to the integrity of the coast contract. Rank and files began calling for a port shutdown to force

WORKERS SEEK FIRST CONTRACT
By ALICIA MATZGER

ALBANY, Ore.—ILWU members employed at Inland Quick Freeze here are locked in a battle for justice, dignity and fairness—a battle they are determined to win.

First, some background. In March 1993 workers at Inland Quick Freeze & Storage, a fish processing plant, approached the ILWU and asked for assistance in organizing. International representative Dick Wise met with them and began the process that would bring them under the ILWU banner. I was fortunate to assist in this effort, along with volunteer longshoreman Leal Sundet and Doug Carey from the Columbia River Area. Two months later, the National Labor Relations Board conducted the union election. Inland's workers voted 2-1 to join the ILWU.

SLOW GOING
We are in the process of attempting to negotiate a contract, but it's going slowly. We'll need the support of our friends in labor and in the political arena, but most of all we need the support of the ILWU rank and file. We are the lucky ones, after all. We already have good contracts, with good wages, benefits and working conditions. Let's remember the workers who are exploited every day and, when we can, share with them our democratic structure, our principles, our beliefs and our vision of a world with justice for everyone.

STOCKHOLDERS BLITZED
The first step of the ILWU's campaign was to distribute an informational brochure at the annual stockholder's meeting September 23 in Omaha, Neb. Six ILWU members from Locals 21 and 40, along with two staff members, blitzed the more than 1,000 stockholders five minutes before the meeting started.

The brochure outlined ConAgra's history, which includes hundreds of thousands of dollars in fines, violations and court judgments over the last several years at various subsidiaries. The members called on stockholders to vote for a slate of directors that will reverse Peavey/ConAgra's company's "best and final offer." the ILWU took on the Peavey ConAgra corporation in its own backyard last month when an eight-person "action team" confronted top executives at a stockholders meeting, picketed subsidiaries, staged protests and held press conferences in the company's home state of Nebraska.

Peavey Grain Co.—a subsidiary of the huge food conglomerate, ConAgra Corp.—in July unilaterally implemented a take-it-or-leave-it contract that cut ILWU manning in half at the grain elevator in the Port of Kalama. The ILWU has filed unfair labor practice charges with the NLRB.

But the union is not waiting around for a decision by the terminally slow and historically hostile labor board. Following a 1,500-member rally in Kalama in August, the union has begun a public education campaign to let people know that Peavey's job cuts are only one of many anti-worker policies designed by ConAgra.

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**President's Report**

The 1993 AFL-CIO Convention

BY DAVID ARIAN  ILWU International President

The 20th Biennial AFL-CIO National Convention, held in San Francisco October 4-7, brought into sharp relief some of the problems and opportunities, the weaknesses and strength of our labor movement.

As usual, the newspapers took a look around the room and declared that the labor movement was dead. They’re wrong. But they have a point, and we’ve got to change. The mostly older white men sitting in that room do not reflect the American work force, and they can’t pretend to lead it. Our movement, broadly defined, is increasingly ethnically diverse, with more and more women, with more and more people outside formal union structures, making the minimum wage, barely getting by. Only a small sector has some level of security, however temporary. We need a leadership that reflects that diversity and those conditions.

On the other hand, there’s change going on. As always our delegates made every effort to use this occasion to connect with people in the labor movement who share our values, and our problems, and to learn from them. We’re always interested in meeting with delegates from unions that are serious about organizing, and serious about finding more effective ways of using their power. There’s a lot going on in AFL-CIO structures like the Organizing Institute, and among many of the affiliated internationals, and we did our best to bring back what we could to benefit the membership.

We also held productive conversations with people in our industries, such as the ILA and the Steamers. We represented the ILWU as well as we could on the floor of the Convention and at the various events that were held. And everywhere we went we found honest and committed people who really are looking for, and sometimes finding, answers to the problems we face.

President Clinton and Secretary of Labor Robert B. Reich spoke on the need to rebuild America and put people back to work. Clinton was impressive in his presentation on education, job creation and the development of a Health Care Plan. The biggest problem with both speeches was, as Perot says, “there was a giant sucking sound” when they talked about NAFTA.

NAFTA has been misrepresented as a trade issue from Day One. The fact is NAFTA is an investment agreement that ensures the free flow of American capital and weakens the position of labor.

For years the reorganization of capital has made the rich richer and it has further impoverished Canadian, Mexican and American workers. NAFTA is the frosting on the cake. Republicans, Democrats and Perot’s people all have different opinions, but are leading us down the same road. The Republicans believe in unrestricted pure capitalism; Clinton believes in managed capitalism and Perot believes in Perot capitalism. So before we jump on the Perot bandwagon, let’s examine how many union contracts Perot has signed with his workers.

The right road for labor is the support of the integration of the world economy and the enhancement of world trade. We support international trade, but only with a higher social standard for world labor. We believe in a social charter for labor as a component of any trade agreement. The NAFTA investment agreement does not defend the interest of working people. The second issue raised by Clinton was the National Health Care Plan. We agree with the need for a health care bill, but again we see the motivation for this plan is governed by capital interest. Clinton makes it clear that we cannot be competitive without giving American industry more breaks.

The motivation for NAFTA and National Health Care is to make the American economic system more healthy and profitable.

**More honors for The Dispatcher**

We must focus on the rights of workers to organize. The main focus must be labor rights, labor law reform and enforcement in USA, Canada and Mexico. The NAFTA debate gives us the opportunity to fight to elevate standards in all three countries.

The question we must ask is: Who is going to look out for the health of the working class?

The advantage gives business will make them more profitable, but this will not translate into better, higher pay and more jobs. There must be an independent voice for labor. The organized labor movement must focus on the rights of workers to organize and fairly represent gains for the working class. The main focus must be labor rights, labor law reform and enforcement in USA, Canada and Mexico. The NAFTA debate gives us the opportunity to fight to elevate the standard of living in all three countries.

The National Health Care debate gives us the opportunity to fight for the people’s side of health care, full coverage and full benefits. We must take profit as the driving force and substitute it with the need for Good Health Care for All the People in the United States.

In future articles we will discuss Clinton’s so-called managed care plan, and why a single-payer system is better for the American people.
ILWU action team takes Peavey beef to stockholders, challenges company on labor policies, "grain watering". Continued from page 1

holders to pressure ConAgra to reform its corporate policies to provide safe working conditions, stop unethical practices, treat its workers fairly and not attempt to gain additional profit at the expense of vendors, buyers and customers.

After ConAgra’s self-promotional video and pep talk from the boss, Fletcher found out that stockholders had good questions.

"How do you answer these charges?" the man asked Fletcher. "And what is the source of this brochure?"

Fletcher, obviously flustered, stumbled a second before naming a labor union as the author of the brochure. He ducked all but one of the issues raised in the brochure, and denied the accusation that Peavey is "watering" its grain.

After several questions about exorbitant executive pay and other matters, Local 40 President Don Holzman got up and explained to stockholders what Peavy had done to ILWU members.

Holzman told Fletcher that ConAgra’s insistence on a 20 percent return on investment from each subsidiary was forcing managers to squeeze the workers through layoffs, union-busting, ignoring health and safety procedures, pay cuts, plant closures and other back-breaking measures.

Fletcher interrupted Holzman to say that he would not consider pushing for less than a 20 percent return. He also said the meeting was not "an appropriate forum" to discuss these issues.

Retired Local 40 member James Byrne rose soon after Holzman to question whether ConAgra intended to settle the contract dispute with the ILWU.

Fletcher tried to interrupt Byrne, but the ILWU member held his ground.

"In the grain, but it’s not us farmers putting the dirt in there," the farmer said. "But yet the money’s out of 10, 15, 20 years out of ‘ern and then kick the other," said an elderly gentleman in the front row who described himself as "a small stockholder."

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FLUSTERED

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Immediately following the ConAgra stockholders’ meeting, the ILWU action team packed into a van headed for Grand Island, Neb., where it kicked off a series of informational pickets and protests at more than a dozen ConAgra subsidiaries across eastern Nebraska and western Iowa. The team hit Wheeler’s and Winfield Foods plants in York, Seward, Grand Island, Kearney, and Lincoln, Neb.; several Peavey grain elevators, and a Blue Star frozen foods plant in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

The action team members found that current and former ConAgra employees, as well as customers, were not happy with the farmer at a ConAgra-owned Wheeler’s store in Seward, Neb., said ConAgra was not a good employer, or fair to farmers and consumers.

"They get 10, 15, 20 years out of ‘em and then kick them out the door," farmer Marvin Banzhof told ILWU members who were passing out information at the Wheeler’s store in Seward.

A wheat farmer at a Wheeler’s store in North Platte, Neb., told ILWU members that adulteration of grain was hurting farmers. Peavey is under federal investigation for watering grain to increase profits.

"The foreign countries complain about all the dirt in the grain, but it’s not us farmers putting the dirt in there," the farmer said. "But yet the money’s coming out of our pockets."

A former Wheeler’s employee in Grand Island said that the chain was not a good place to work. "It’s a big place," the worker said. "They didn’t pay more than minimum wage."

A manager at a Wheeler’s store in Kearney complained that ConAgra’s insistence on maintaining a 20 percent return put undue pressure on him. Many customers also said they were dismayed at the chain’s high prices. Some said they were dismayed at the examples of ConAgra’s improper activities listed in the delegation’s brochure.

GRAIN WATERING

At the Council Bluffs grain elevator, the ILWU team protested the company’s use of water to increase grain weight and pad profits. The ILWU protest was covered by the ILWU press conferences received wide media coverage in at least half a dozen state newspapers, radio and television.

About 7:30 a.m., as their car inched toward the massive picket line, the police began to form a wedge for the car through the pickets. A Local 10 stoward approached the inspectors’ car and explained what the strike was about and asked them to honor the picket line as others had done before them. The two inspectors backed up and drove off.

SPROUT ON THE DECK

Shortly after, one of the Teamsters announced to the enthusiastic approval of the pickets that the cargo on the deck was not moved. It will not be loaded or unloaded and Continental Grain to comply with international law and put the vessel back in the active list for normal cargo.

"Mr. Fletcher can name the time, the place and date," said ILWU President Paul Iddings. "But he can’t hide from the practices that his company is engaging in, such as "watering grain", for profit, killing and maiming workers, throwing people out of work and cheating producers.

The ILWU blitz was covered by the Nebraska press as well as national networks and spread throughout Nebraska that the union was putting the heat on ConAgra.

The ILWU challenged Fletcher to meet them in a more "appropriate" public forum.

"Mr. Fletcher can name the time, place and date," said ILWU Local 21 President Paul Iddings. "But he can’t hide from the practices that his company is engaging in, such as "watering grain", for profit, killing and maiming workers, throwing people out of work and cheating producers.

SF dockers shut Continental down

Continued from page 1

PMA to enforce the contract on its members, and defend longshore jurisdiction. Hundreds of them, along with members of clerks Local 34, and former ConAgra employees, as well as customers, were not happy with the company.

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ILWU lobbyists Clarence Thomas, Local 10, San Francisco; Duane Peterson, Local 18, Sacramento; Lou Gibbons, Local 34, San Francisco; Zeke Ruelas, Local 94, Wilmingto;

By Lindsay McLaughlin

The greatest strength of the ILWU is the bedrock commitment of the membership to the principles of trade unionism, democracy, and the member's exemplary ability to articulate these principles in ways that would make a growling at the state and federal level became evident at the September legislative conference in Washington, DC.

This grassroots legislative program, initiated last Spring, is based on the ability of the District Councils in mobilizing the rank-and-file member-ship into action. Armed with anti-NAFTA source books and fact sheets on health care reform, the delegates were geared up to counter the forces of greed, like USA-NAFTA and the insurance lobby, which was soundly defeated at Congress.

This conference in particular allowed members of Congress to see a cross-section of union delegates from Local 142 and the delegates from the mainland. The Southern California District Council sent a delegate to represent warehouse interests as well. Delegates included Eusebio Lapenia, Guy Fujimura, Robert Girald, Gary Tomita, and Donald Matthews from Southern California; Eusebio Lapenia, State Peterson, and Clarence Thomas from Northern California; Jeff Adams from Oregon; James King, Paul Iddings, and Bud Peterson from Washington; and Paul Iddings from Washington.

International Vice-President Brian McMakin addressed the gathering on Monday, September 27, and coordinated activities throughout the week. Over 40 members of Congress and staff were served by the delegation—a truly remarkable record for any organization.

Notably, Zeke Ruelas and Linda Palacios, women who had traveled 4,000 miles as members of a Congress-a-thon to the powerful a correction of a Mexico's ruling party, the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), and its role in oppressing workers. These delegates articulated the issues very well. And I liked them—we would welcome these people or other delegates from the ILWU in the future to discuss issues.

Ben McKain, legislative director to Rep. Mike Kopetski was very impressed with our delegation from Oregon. Jeff Adams, Mr. McKain recalled, "Jeff brought up the possibility under NAFTA that cargo including imported automobiles, could be diverted from the Port of Portland to Mexican ports. As a result, Rep. Kopetski expressed Jeff's concerns to the US Trade Ambassador at a recent committee mark-up and will continue to seek clarification from US Trade Ambassador on these concerns." The Washington trips are just a part of an overall grassroots strategy. It is important for each member of the ILWU to play a part in grassroots lobbying by writing letters or making phone calls. The labor movement needs to do more than ever and we are going to do everything we can to fight it."
BY JESSE STRAHANAH

REDDING, CA — The 123 delegates to the 39th annual convention of the Pacific Coast Pensions Association (PCPA), meeting here last month, re-elected their leader “full of fire to the active workforce” in all ILWU locals and divisions.

The men and women delegates, from as far south as San Pedro, Cal., and as far north as Poulsbo, Wash., unanimously promised the ILWU membership that “we will join you in rallies and demonstrations, lobbying at federal and state levels, with political action, letter writing, petition signing—you name it; we’ll be there, just call on us. An Injury to One is An Injury to All.”

BRIDGES INSTITUTE BACKED

Twelve other resolutions adopted by PCPA delegates during their September 19-21 session provided the basis for an action program of organizing and education.

At the head of that aggressive pensioner agenda was the enthusiastic adoption of the resolution entitled “The Harry Bridges Institute for International Education and Organization.”

To help fund this program, the convention recommended that “the pensioners leave their full support and do everything possible to achieve a goal of $150,000 annually.”

“With that kind of money,” ILWU President David Arian told the delegates, “we’re going to create education programs, organizing programs, and international programs to help keep the union strong. Pensioners will sit on the Institute as equals—on the steering committee, and on advisory committees in every area.”

PCPA convention delegates agreed that each of the four major Pacific Coast areas would select a pensioner to serve on the Institute’s board of directors.

The idea for the Institute originated at a meeting two months ago, attended by Nikki Bridges, University of Washington law professor and Bridges Institute chair; Frank Olson,constituency organizer for Bridges and David Arian. The ILWU Executive Board supported a proposal for the International to fund this program.

The PCPA delegates elected three new titled officers: Jim Foster, Columbia River president; Lou Loveridge, southern California, last vice-president; and Arne Auvinen, Longview, Wash., secretary-treasurer. Tilly Syl, San Francisco, was reelected 2nd vice-president. Sylvia, an officer in the San Francisco Bay Area Pensioners, called the convention to order. First vice president Frank Reich of Tacoma chaired the convention, which was dedicated to former PCPA president Nate Dillias, board members Erben Dennis, Reuben Negrete and other PCPA members who died in the past year.

OPPOSE NAFTA

The convention adopted two resolutions calling for stepped-up opposition to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). The delegates urged all ILWU pension clubs to “do all they can now, in cooperation with their International and district councils” to defeat NAFTA. “The so-called side agreements addressing labor and environmental concerns are not worth the paper they’re written on,” stated the resolution. “NAFTA” will do nothing to improve the financial, physical well being of Mexican workers or any others. Its adoption would institutionalize the export of jobs to all parts of Mexico as well as elsewhere in Central and South America.”

Arian’s keynote address also targeted NAFTA, and the public surge against the treaty.

Advocates for NAFTA talk about new jobs and how good it is for the American people,” Arian said. “They can sell anything they want to TV because they control TV. They control the money and the media—but the bottom line is the American people know nothing to improve the financial, physical well being of Mexican workers or that NAFTA is not any good. There will be more jobs for those in America who service the international financial arena. Not for the average person, who works in the factory, in the field, in the service industries, on the waterfront, there’s going to be no gains. There’s going to be no gains, and I will not admit that. ’We’ve got a job to do,” warned Arian. “NAFTA can be defeated. The next two months will determine whether NAFTA goes up or down. We must redouble our efforts to get to those congressional people that are on the borderline in California, Oregon and Washington. The pensioners and auxiliaries can have a real impact in this effort.”

ANTISCAP BILL

Convention delegates also voted in on the decades long anti-labor drive of corporate America and reactionaries of both parties resulting in “a dramatic downturn in the American standard of living, in wages and working conditions.” They called for a flood of letters to Senators from the Pacific Coast demanding no filibuster and immediate passage of S. 55, the Workplace Fairness (anti-scap) bill.

ILWU International Representative Alicia Matzger explained how difficult it is to organize new workers under current labor laws.

Matzger described an ILWU election victory in Albany, Oregon involving workers hired by a British-based conglomerate, Hillsdown Holdings. The company is stalling negotiations, she

care crisis, and insisted that it be part of the coming debate in Congress.

Bill Ward, who served the union as a joint trustee of the benefit funds for many years in his capacity as a member of the Coast Labor Relations Committee, said that the resolution on border jobs “are right on the beam.” Ward said that the doors are finally open for a debate in Congress, which will probably adopt some kind of a plan next year.

NEW STRUCTURE

To be more effective in carrying out resolutions like the ones on NAFTA, labor law reform and health care and to have more clout in implementing the ILWU legislative agenda at all levels, delegates endorsed a six-point year-round legislative committee structure advocated at the four-way district meetings held April 17 in San Francisco.

The International and the district councils were asked to develop guidelines to assist rank-and-file legislative committees in all locals, pension clubs and auxiliaries, to work with the union’s state and congressional lobbyists. The convention also endorsed participation in coalitions which include community, senior citizens, church, civic and other organizations, in order to pursue and achieve ILWU legislative goals.

In other actions, PCPA delegates:

• Voted to present a check and a signed scroll to Jean Gundlach for her more than three decades of dedicated work on behalf of the ILWU and PCPA.

• Reaffirmed their support of the boycotts of California table grapes and Chateau Ste. Michelle and Columbia Wineries.

• Called for support of HR 128 and S 575 to strengthen and adequately fund the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

• Renewed support for centrally located homes of ILWU members in designated areas.

• Unanimously adopted a motion commending the recent Longshore Division negotiating committee for “a job well done.”

Heading up this year’s convention committees were: Lou Loveridge (chair) and Jesse Strahanahan (secretary), Resolutions; David Kindred (chair), Constitution; Al Erickson (chair), Ways and Means; and Joe Lucas (chair), Credentials. PCPA sergeants-at-arms were Rose and Les Eichtel, Lawrence DeLeo and George Geber.

PCPA Executive Board members are: Art Kanisto and alternate George Bowers, Southern California; Joe Lucas and alternate Corrine Massey, Sacramento, Eugene Bailey and alternate Dutch Holland, Columbia River; David Kindred and alternate Paul Everdell, Astoria/Longview; Dick Moerk and alternate Val Swegal, Seattle; and John Ehly and alternate Harold Seitz, Tacoma.

Next year’s PCPA convention is scheduled to begin September 19 at the Park Terrace Inn, Redding, Cal.

The new Executive Board of the ILWU Pacific Coast Pensioners’ Association — photo by Jim Foster

International Rep Alicia Matzger reports to pensioners.
Local 10 softball team ends slump

BY LARRY CARMICHAEL


Local 500 derby

BY LARRY CARMICHAEL


Docks, widows, on October pension lists

NOTE: CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NOT DEDUCTIBLE AS CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

Donald K. Crepeau, John Mathews, Roy W. Nickson, Donald Allen Roll; Local 54, Stockton: Hector V. Aguirre; Local 63, Wilmington: Willis Eugene Aiken, David F. Gin, George Roy Redick, armando M. Silvas; Local 92, Portland: Robert Blackburn, Arthur Vernon Hilton, Billy R. Yocam; Local 94, Wilmington: Jack Milosevich, Joe H. Ransdell. • The widows are: Local 8, Portland: Gladys M. Plaisted (Harold); Rosensart J. Younger (Gene); Local 12, North Bend: Billie M. Massey; Local 13, Wilmington: Minnie Allee (Ora); Mary A. Madisen (Sam); Mary Lilian Munoz (Robert); Pearl H. Willburn (George); Local 19, Seattle: Ichiye Wirth (Frank); Mary E. Yarka (Ray); Local 21, Longview: Gladys M. Plaisted (Harold); Local 24, Aberdeen: Dewey Wayne Cox, Arnold Harrison DeHart, Warren Neil Jewell, John P. Medak, Percy James Snow; Local 27, Port Angeles: Paul H. Conner.

Dick Wise to Portland port commission

PORTLAND, Ore. — Dick Wise, long-time Northwest Representative for the ILWU, was appointed to the Portland Commission recently by Governor Barbara Roberts.

The appointment came more than two years of persistent lobbying on Wise's behalf by the Columbia River District Council.

In spite of a history of good relations between Governor Roberts and the ILWU, Wise was passed over in two prior appointments. The governor cited other priorities of his administration as the reason for his action.

Wise's appointment means that he will hold a seat that was last filled by and ILWU member G. Johnny Parks during the late seventies and early eighties. In seeking the position Wise, the Council sought and obtained the support of almost all the Oregon labor movement and the entire maritime shipping industry served by the Port, as well as all the ports on the coast where ILWU members sit as port commissioners and managers.

This demonstration of effective political effort landed Wise a job that pays him nothing, but gives union members a voice in the policy management of the port.

Nikki Bridges joins Angel Island fete

TIBURON, Ca. — Nikki Bridges, widow of ILWU founder and President Emeritus Harry Bridges, was a special guest at the 1993 Angel Island Celebration of Harry's 1939 trial, the site where Harry was detained during his infamous deportation trials.

The island was long used by the US government as a point of detention for immigrants.

All historic sites were open to the public during the celebration, which also featured historical reenactments, tours, music and dancing, crafts and other activities, including a mock immigration hearing. Participants talked about "paper sons" and "paper daughters" and the notorious Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882.

As INS spokeswoman Virginia Kicke noted: "We all need to work harder to make people aware of all aspects of the immigration issue. Too much of the present focus is negative."

Dick Wise, Local B, named to Portland port commission.
ILWU Voting Recommendations for California

Here are the endorsements of the ILWU Northern and Southern California District Councils and local legislative committees for the Tuesday, November 2, 1993 general election:

STATE PROPOSITIONS

168 - Vote to approve Low-Rent Projects YES
169 - Single Budget Trailer Bill NO
170 - Local School Tax-Majority Vote YES
171 - Disaster Tax Relief YES
172 - Half-Cent County Sales Tax Extension YES
173 - Home Mortgage Insurance Bonds YES
174 - Private School Vouchers NO

San Francisco County

City Attorney       Louise RENNE (incumbent)
Treasurer          Mary CALLANAN (incumbent)

COUNTY MEASURES

A - Cultural Facilities Bond Funds YES
B - Street & Traffic Safety Improvement Bonds YES
C - Sales Tax YES
D - Police & Fire Early Retirement YES
E - Senior Person Benefits YES
F - Police & Fire Retirement Benefit Modifications YES
G - Wage Fringe YES
H - Radio Communication System YES
I - Health Department Lease Financing YES
J - Cash Management YES
K - Ethics Commission YES
L - Human Resources Department YES
M - Transportation Commission YES
N - Charter Royalty NO
O - Meetings of Supervisor Committees NO
P - Board of Supervisors Meeting NO
Q - Purchasing Procedures NO
R - Retirement Board NO
S - Fine Arts Museums YES

Contra Costa County

Concord City Council

CITY OF RICHMOND

Mayor
George LIVINGSTON (Honorable Mention)

RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL

Richard GRIFFIN
John MARQUEZ
John ZIEGENHINN

ANTIOCH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT M
Miss GRANT

MT. DIABLO SCHOOL BOARD

Gary EBERHART

PITTSBURG UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lori ANZINI

CONTRA COSTA WATER DISTRICT 1

Peter LANDLEY

CONTRA COSTA WATER DISTRICT 2

Ron BUTLER

San Mateo County

BELMONT CITY COUNCIL

Pat RANGDA

BURLINGAME CITY COUNCIL

B. HARRISON

Caro TANZI

EAST PALO ALTO

NO RECOMMENDATION

FOSTER CITY CITY COUNCIL

Peter WEE

HALF MOON BAY CITY COUNCIL

Jerry DONOVAN

NO RECOMMENDATION

PACIFIC GROVE CITY COUNCIL

Norm RICE

IN CALIFORNIA

Vouchers would destroy public schools

Under this “school voucher” proposition, pushed by Governor Pete Wilson, at least $5,200 would be taken away from the public school budget for every child who transfers to a private school. About 600,000 children are already enrolled in private schools, and, no matter what their income, would receive credit for $2,600. All this money would be deducted from public school budgets.

The loss of public school money would put pressure on the state to either raise taxes or cut other vital services for the shortfall. Public school children would face larger classes, fewer supplies and fewer courses.

Prop 174 would allow private schools to deny admission to any student for almost any reason. School operators need only recruit 25 students to collect the money. They can keep their use of tax money a secret.

The District Councils have also announced support of Proposition 172 to extend the county 12-cent sales tax. The money will be targeted to public safety.

The ILWU Northern and Southern California District Councils urge all registered ILWU members to go to the polls November 2 and vote “no” on Proposition 174.

East Bay Scholarship

OAKLAND—The East Bay Pension Club is now issuing scholarship applications for their annual ILWU graduating senior scholarship program. This scholarship award can be applied for by any senior whose parents are members of the union.

Please call Ed McFarland at (510) 638-5605 for applications.

The ILWU Columbia River District Council urges defeat of the General Sales Tax ballot measure for the ninth time.

No matter what pretense sales tax advocates offer for its adoption, labor has always known the sales tax for exactly what it is: the most regressive of all forms of taxation, hitting hardest on wage earners and persons on low or fixed incomes. The poorer the family, the greater the share of its income is spent on items subject to the sales tax.

In March, 1988, the Washington, DC-based Citizens for Tax Justice (CTJ) issued a 60-page documented report, entitled “Nickels & Dimes,” in which it analyzed the burden of sales and excise taxes in each of the 50 states, as paid by families at seven different income levels. The CTJ report found that in the states with a sales tax “the nickels and dimes add up. And when they do, they take a far greater chunk out of the pockets of middle-income families and the poor than they do of the bankrolls of the rich.”

The ILWU-CRDC favors adequate real tax reform measures as income and corporate taxes based on the ability to pay, homestead deductions for their annual ILWU graduating senior scholarship program. This scholarship award can be applied for by any senior whose parents are members of the union.

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The ILWU-CRDC urges a NO vote on Measure 1 on November 9.

One more try for sales tax: Dump Measure 1

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State Prop 174:

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